

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

On page 31, lines 3-10: please amend the paragraph at this location as indicated below using ~~strikethrough~~ and underline:

- “An irregular LDPC code may also be described using a bipartite graph.
- 5 However, the degree of each set of nodes within an irregular LDPC code may be chosen according to some distribution. Therefore, for two different variable nodes, v_{i_1} and v_{i_2} , of an irregular LDPC code, $|E_v(i_1)|$ may not equal to $|E_v(i_2)|$. This relationship may also hold true for two check nodes. The concept of irregular LDPC codes was originally introduced within ~~M. Luby, M. Mitzenmacher, A. Shokrollahi, D. Spielman and V. Stemann, “Practical loss-resilient codes,” *IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory*, Vol. 47, pp. 569-584, Feb. 2001~~ M. Luby, M. Mitzenmacher, M. A. Shokrollahi, D. A. Spielman, and V. Stemann, “Practical Loss-Resilient Codes,” *Proc. 29th Symp. on Theory of Computing*, 1997, pp. 150-159.”
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